+[ ]شری سکندر بخت: ...پرائم منسٹر صاحب میرا بیسک سوال آپ کے آنے سے پہلے منسٹر صاحب سے یہ تھا کہ دہلی میں چار جز لینے کا کوئی جسٹیفکیشن گورنمنٹ کے پاس نہیں ہے۔ لیز سسٹم کا ری ویژن کرنے کا کوئی مقصد نہیں تھا۔

There is no justification for levying the conversion charges; converting leasehold into freehold; because it was never meant for that. Levying conversion charges is absolutely wrong. That is what I am saying.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, let me assure, once again, that his suggestion also will be taken into consideration. Now, some people in the society can do anything and get away with the influence of politicians, irrespective of any political party. That is what I have witnessed in Delhi. About 17, 18 gangs are operating here, and my whole intention is to see that these are put an end to. About conversion, if within the limitations, as you have suggested, or if it is abnormal, I have gone through the table to see how they have done it. If any improvement is necessary, I will definitely take it into consideration.

श्री विष्णु कान्त शास्त्री: जिन्होंने ...(व्यवधान) नियम के अनुसार जमा किये हैं ...(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. Shastriji, please. ...*(interruptions)*... Silence, please.

SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA: Sir, the House will appreciate that for the first time we have provided Rs 250 crores for the slum dwellers. Rs 250 crores is a pittance compared to the magnitude of the problem which is prevailing in this country in the various cities. So I wanted to see taht resources are mobilised from those people who are capable of paying, such of those people who have grabbed DDA land or the Delhi Municipal Corporation land. Today, In Delhi one acre of land costs Rs. 50 crores in some areas, and in some areas it is Rs. 5 crores, Rs. 2 crores or Rs. 3 crores. We don't want to allow this. That is why I have taken up this issue particularly, and I will see that a Bill is introduced, if necessary. Whatever may be the opposition—stiff, or demonstrations—I am not going to be afraid of such things, and that money is going to be earmarked only fo the slum dwellers' corpus fund. So far as this issue also is concerned, I am prepared to agree with you.

+[ ]Transliteration in Arabic Script.

Recommendations of Lakadawala Committee on identification of the Poor

563. SHRI ANANTA SETHI:
SHRI PARAG CHALITH:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a conference of State Food and Civil Supplies Ministers took place in Delhi;

(b) if so, the detail's regarding decisions taken therein;

(c) whether it is a fact that Lakadawala Committee in a report commissioned by the Planning Commission, had estimated that the people living below the poverty line should also be identified; and

(d) if so, the details regarding recommendations of this Committee and the decision taken by the Conference of these Civil Supplies Ministers so far as the question of the poor living below the poverty line is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ananta Sethi.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference broadly endorsed the proposal for targetted Public Distribution System (PDS) especially the provision of subsidised foodgrains to the population below poverty line and recommended that the Central Government may bring in this targetted PDS into force as soon as possible.

(c) and (d) The Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor (Lakadawala Committee) suggested that use of special surveys to identify eligible households for poverty alleviation programmes cannot really give a correct picture because they may suffer from reporting bias which arises when it is known that the survey will form the basis for identifying beneficiaries of Government assistance. The Conference of Civil Supply Ministers of State Governments endorsed the poverty ratio calculated by the Lakadawala Committee methodology.

SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Sir, in 1993 the Advisory Council, in its meeting, had passed a resolution to have a national policy on the PDS to focus on the need to ensure supply of food-grains to the needy and weaker sections of the society. In the recent Chief Minister's conference also this proposal was discussed in detail, to streamline the PDS and the need to focus on the population below the poverty line. Now in the reply you have mentioned that in the conference of Civil Supplies Ministers they had endorsed a proposal and recommended to the Central Government to supply subsidised food-grains to the people below the poverty line and to enforce it quickly. I want to know whether the Government has already implemented it. Besides this, I would also like to know whether the Government has ascertained poverty ratio calculations by the Lakadawala Committee's methodology.

SHRI YOGENDRA K. ALAGH: Sir, the Ministry of Civil Supplies is processing the recommendations of the Chief Ministers' conference and they will announce the appropriate policies accordingly. As far as the Lakadawala Committee's recommendations are concerned, they are being processed in detail by the Planning Commission. I would like to clarify that the poverty line in the Lakadawala Committee is the same as in the Planning's Commission's current estimates. But, as far as the poverty proportions are concerned, there are some aspects on which we would like some more discussions. For example, according to the Lakadawala Committee's estimates, rural poverty is less than urban poverty.

Even in States like Bihar, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka or Kerala rural poverty is less than urban poverty. We think that some of these estimates have something to do with the methodology that the Committee has followed. If we accept them, the way they are, it may have some very serious repercussions for planning policy. So, the Planning Commission is processing the latest round of the National Sample Survey in detail, and we will come out with firm views on the subject in the Approach Paper.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Promotional Measures for Schools having Electronic Projects

*564. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the promotional measures which the Department of Electronics will take for the schools in which the Five Electronics Projects have been given under MPLADS;

(b) whether such schools would be automatically recognised by the